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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent)
application of:) Before the Examiner
) Not assigned
Robert A. Farris et al.)
)
Serial No. Unknown)
) Group Art Unit Unknown
)
ANTERIOR CERVICAL PLATING) Atty Docket No. 4002-3445/PC295.12
SYSTEM)
) November 13, 2003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 "Express Mail" label number_EL 984 269 377 US. Date of Deposit November 13, 2003. I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application; P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Patricia E. Allgood

Sir:

As a Preliminary Amendment to the above-identified Patent Application filed herewith, which application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/723,317, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/399,525 filed on September 20, 1999, please enter the following.